



### **Home made potting soils**

#### **The one I use to start cuttings, generally in a “1 gallon” or 6 inch pot.**

This mix can also be used for starting vegetables, though it's not quite as good as the premium organic potting soils sold in quality nurseries.

- 7 parts Coir (reconstituted from compressed block)
- 2 parts volcanic cinder (1/4 inch minus) or vermiculite
- 1-1/2 parts finished compost (screened ¼ inch minus)

Mix well and soak before using

#### **The mix I use for small pots in the 1-2 gallon range.**

- 5 parts coarse wood chips (roughly the size of nickels and quarters)
- 1-1/2 to 2 parts wood mulch or coir (depending on how much fine stuff is in the coarse chips)
- 1-1/2 parts ¼ inch cinders or vermiculite
- 1 to 1-1/2 parts finished compost

When shopping for materials, the best deal is in the bulk bins and comes “You-Haul” at some nurseries or landscape materials yards.

**Look for aged wood chips, if they have a strong “piney” odor, either go somewhere else or compost them a while at home.**

#### **The mix for larger pots, feed tubs or even raised beds.**

- 7-8 parts coarse wood chips
- 2 parts wood mulch or coir
- 2 parts ¾ minus inch cinders
- 1-1/2 part finished compost
- **If going into raised beds, add 1-1/2 parts good soil (from a garden or some other rich location)**

These recipes are rough measures, based on the materials that have been available near by. Like any recipe the proof is in the pudding, so assess your mixes as you go and adjust to the textures and qualities of materials, which change from source to source and year to year.

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